

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/660,529

Examiner

Darren W. Ark

Applicant(s)

BORGEAT, LOUIS

Art Unit

3643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amdt. filed 2/22/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 21, 22 and 26-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.



**DARREN W. ARK**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. A fly fishing rod comprising a fishing rod shaft having a tip end and a proximal end; a handgrip mounted to the fishing rod shaft, proximate to the proximal end of said fishing rod shaft, the handgrip circumscribing the rod shaft and having a length  $l_1$  adapted for receiving a fisherman's hand thereon, the handgrip having an external diameter along at least a portion of the length  $l_1$  thereof which is greater than an external diameter of the fishing rod shaft, said fishing rod shaft having a proximal portion extending past said handgrip towards the proximal end;

a sleeve like adapter secured over said proximal portion, said adapted being formed with an engaging locking means, the sleeve like adapted having an outer face with a diameter  $d_1$  at a first end, proximate to the proximal end of the fishing rod shaft;

a hollow cylinder having a peripheral wall with an outer face and an inner face opposed to the outer face and defining a cavity, the outer face including a reel seat with fasteners, the cavity having a diameter  $d_2$  wider than the diameter  $d_1$  allowing said adapted to be slidably inserted into said cavity by first inserting the first end of said adapter, said hollow cylinder having an engageable member engageable with said

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engaging locking means when sliding the hollow cylinder over the adapter, said hollow cylinder being releasably secured to said adapter by inducing less than a 360 degree rotation of the hollow cylinder relatively to the adapter; and

a reel, with a fishing line, mounted to the outer face and over the cavity of the hollow cylinder, the hollow cylinder being removable from the adapter as a single unit with the reel mounted to the reel seat by disengaging said engageable member from said engaging locking means, thereby allowing said reel and said hollow cylinder to be mounted to and dismounted from said adapter secured over said fishing rod shaft.

Claim 4, line 3, inserted --,-- at the end of "adapter".

Claim 6, line 1, replaced "which" with --wherein--.

Claim 26. A fly fishing rod with a detachable reel seat, the fly fishing rod comprising:

a fishing rod shaft having a tip end and a proximal end;

a handgrip mounted to and circumscribing the fishing rod shaft, near ~~to~~ the proximal end of the fishing rod shaft, the handgrip having a length l1 adapted for receiving a fisherman's hand thereon, the handgrip having an external diameter along at least a portion of the length l1 thereof which is greater than an external diameter of the fishing rod shaft, the fishing rod shaft having a proximal portion between the proximal end and the handgrip;

a sleeve secured to the proximal portion, the sleeve having a generally cylindrical outer surface;

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a removable reel seat member defining a cylindrical cavity adapted to slide onto the outer surface of the sleeve into a mounted position, the reel seat member having reel fasteners;

a reel mounted both to the removable reel seat with the reel fasteners and over the cavity of the removable reel seat; and

a locking member associated with the reel seat member and the sleeve for releasably locking the reel seat member to the sleeve by inducing less than a 360 degree rotation of the reel seat relatively to the sleeve;

whereby the reel and reel seat member can be released and removed from the fishing rod during the sport of fly fishing.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regard to claim 1, the prior art of record does not disclose a fly fishing rod comprising a handgrip circumscribing the rod shaft and having a length  $l_1$  adapted for receiving a fisherman's hand thereon, the handgrip having an external diameter along at least a portion of the length  $l_1$  thereof which is greater than an external diameter of the fishing rod shaft; the hollow cylinder being releasably secured to said adapter by inducing less than a 360 degree rotation of the hollow cylinder relatively to the adapter; and a reel, with a fishing line, mounted to the outer face and over the cavity of the hollow cylinder.

In regard to claim 26, the prior art of record does not disclose a fly fishing rod with a detachable reel seat, the fly fishing rod comprising; a handgrip circumscribing the

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fishing rod shaft and having a length l1 adapted for receiving a fisherman's hand thereon, the handgrip having an external diameter along at least a portion of the length l1 thereof which is greater than an external diameter of the fishing rod shaft; a reel mounted both to the removable reel seat with the reel fasteners and over the cavity of the removable reel seat; and a locking member associated with the reel seat member and the sleeve for releasably locking the reel seat member to the sleeve by inducing less than a 360 degree rotation of the reel seat relatively to the sleeve.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Darren W. Ark whose telephone number is (571) 272-6885. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 8:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter M. Poon can be reached on (571) 272-6891. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Darren W. Ark  
Primary Examiner  
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DWA